



United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



Prepared by the Capitol Visitor Center Project Office, Architect of the Capitol, July 21, 2003

This Week – Ongoing Work – 7/21/03 through 7/25/03

- The perimeter wall (2,080 linear feet) of the CVC is complete. Deep excavation is proceeding rapidly to a depth of 50 feet on the House side and crews are expected to begin erecting the first of 132 steel columns in August. More than 500 truckloads of material are being removed from the site each day.

East Front Plaza Work

- Site excavation continues throughout the project site. Crews have reached a depth of 40 feet in some locations on the House side.
- Installation of tie-backs (groups of long steel rods) continues throughout the site. The tie-backs, which can measure up to 110 feet, are inserted through the perimeter walls and anchored into the surrounding terrain. **Crews have begun installing the third and last level of tie-backs on the House side of the site.** The CVC floor slab will be constructed at the 50 foot level, approximately 9 feet below the last row of tie-backs.

Right: Excavation of the truck tunnel is progressing on the north side of the Capitol. The tunnel and its entrance ramp have a combined length of approximately 1,000 feet and require excavation of 70,000 cubic yards. Close to 50,000 cubic yards have been excavated thus far.



East Front Extension (Inside the Capitol)

- Demolition of architectural and structural elements will begin in the basement and sub-basement within the East Front Extension. The work will clear the way for the transition zone between the CVC and the Capitol, which will include escalators, stairwells and two 25-passenger elevators.



Senate Side (Outside the Main Construction Fence)

Tunnel Construction:

- CVC tunnel construction work continues on the East Front Plaza adjacent to and within the Senate triangular parking area, along Constitution Avenue NW just east of the intersection of New Jersey Avenue NW, and along the east side of New Jersey Avenue NW between Constitution Avenue and C Street NW.

A crew installs a tie-back as part of an earth retention system that will clear the way for construction of the concrete walls of the truck tunnel.

Next Week – Anticipated Work – 7/28/03 through 8/01/03

East Front Plaza Work

- Excavation and installation of tie-backs will continue on both the Senate and House sides of the CVC construction site.

East Front (Inside the Capitol Building)

- Demolition of architectural and structural elements will continue in the basement and sub-basement within the East Front Extension.

More than 30 feet below ground, a bulldozer moves soil in the excavated trench of the new truck tunnel.



House Side (Outside the Construction Fence)

No work expected.

Senate Side (Outside the CVC Construction Fence)

- CVC tunnel work will continue in a portion of the East Front Plaza on the Senate side, along Upper Northwest Drive, along New Jersey Avenue NW, and in Constitution Avenue NW, just east of New Jersey Avenue NW.



On the north side of the Capitol, a crew installs a waterproofing membrane inside the earth retention walls that line the route of the new truck tunnel.

When it becomes fully operational in late 2005, the truck tunnel will connect to 8 new loading docks in the lower (service) level of the Capitol Visitor Center. The tunnel will provide a secure, and virtually invisible, means by which all truck loading, delivery and garbage removal activities will occur at the Capitol.

*If you have any questions about the Capitol Visitor Center Project, please contact **Tom Fontana**, CVC Project Communications Officer for the Architect of the Capitol, at (202) 228-1310, or by e-mail at: tfontana@aoc.gov. You can read this document and previous editions on our web site at www.aoc.gov.*

- If you experience any problems to building services inside the Capitol, please contact the Capitol Building Service Center at (202) 228-8800.